

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Revocation	)	
	)	<b>ORDER OF ACCEPTANCE OF</b>
or Suspension of the Teaching	)	
	)	<b>VOLUNTARY SURRENDER</b>
Certification of Sallie C. Till	)	
	)	
Certificate # 152194	)	

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on July 8, 2003. On May 8, 2003, the Lexington County School District Four (District) notified the State Department of Education (Department) of the resignation of Ms. Sallie C. Till following allegations that she had an inappropriate relationship with a seventeen - year old male student. Ms. Till's attorney, Heath P. Taylor, Esquire, and the Office of General Counsel of the Department have had discussions regarding the voluntary surrender her South Carolina educators certificate # 152194 (certificate). Mr. Taylor also requested Ms. Till be allowed to re-apply for a certificate in three years. This surrender will be reported as required to the NASDTEC clearinghouse and all school districts in South Carolina. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of Ms. Till's certificate, effective July 8, 2003.

Accepted

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initial  
here

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sallie  
C. Till

Ms. Till is certified educator with over sixteen years of teaching experience. Ms. Till was a teacher at Swansea High School and was suspended on April 25, 2003, following an investigation into allegations that she had sex with a seventeen-year old student. Ms. Till resigned from Lexington School District Four (District) on May 13, 2003. The student and an additional witness told District officials that the relationship started on a school trip to New York City, when Ms. Till appeared to be flirting with him. The allegations came to light when Ms. Till's husband learned of the relationship and wanted to confront the student. Mr. Till followed him on one occasion. Ms. Till warned the student who became scared and reported the relationship to a coach at the school. He stated Ms. Till told him she had a crush on him. The student admitted he had sex with Ms. Till once at

her home, and that they called each other on the phone several times. A second student gave a statement that the first student told him everything that happened involving Ms. Till right after it happened. This student also witnessed Ms. Till flirting with the first student on the school trip to New York City.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (1990). Just cause includes: *unprofessional conduct, any conduct involving moral turpitude*, S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulation 43-58 (1992). The State Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented by the Department, which is undisputed by Ms. Till, supports its decision to accept the voluntary surrender of Ms. Till’s teaching certificate, effective July 8, 2003. As a provision of this Order, Ms. Till may re-apply for a South Carolina teaching certificate after three years from July 8, 2003. She will also be required to pass a character fitness review by the State Board before her teaching certificate will be considered for reinstatement.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Greg Killian  
Greg Killian  
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
July 8, 2003

I, Sallie C. Till, SC Teaching Certificate #152194, do hereby agree to this Order of Voluntary Surrender, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, July 8, 2003.

7/07/03  
Date

/S/ Sallie C. Till  
Signature